

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 INR-07
LAB-04 NSAE-00 SIL-01 L-03 OIC-02 SS-15 NSC-05
SP-02 /066 W
-----282213Z 102424 /61
R 272125Z MAY 77
FM AMEMBASSY KINGSTON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5525
USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L KINGSTON 2735

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PLAB, ILO, PFOR, JM, US
SUBJECT: ILO: 63RD INTERNATIONAL LABOR CONFERENCE

REFERENCE: STATE 121552

1. DUE TO ABSENCE FROM KINGSTON OF KEY SENIOR OFFICIALS OF THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS -- INCLUDING THE FOREIGN MINISTER -- AND THE UTTER PREOCCUPATION OF THE MORE JUNIOR STAFF WITH OTHER MATTERS, WE WERE COMPELLED TO RELY ON A WRITTEN STATEMENT OF OUR CONCERNS VIS-A-VIS THE ILO WHICH WAS ADDRESSED THE MINISTER. WE WERE ALSO HAMPERED BY THE FACT THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF JAMAICA DID NOT DECIDE FINALLY ON THE COMPOSITION OF ITS DELEGATION UNTIL A FEW DAYS AGO, AND THUS THERE WAS ONLY ONE OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS OUR POSITION AND THE EXTENT AND GRAVITY OF OUR CONCERN WITH ONE OF ITS MEMBERS.

2. WE CANNOT JUDGE THE EFFECT OF OUR WRITTEN COMMUNICATION BUT WE KNOW THAT WE OBTAINED A VERY SYMPATHETIC HEARING FROM THE MEMBER. WE WOULD NOT NORMALLY ATTACH MUCH SIGNIFICANCE TO THIS -- PARTICULARLY SINCE HE IS IDENTIFIED WITH THE OPPOSITION PARTY -- BUT HE HAS THE ADVANTAGE OF BEING A COUSIN OF THE
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DELEGATION HEAD, MINISTRY OF LABOR PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY DERRICK ROCHESTER. HE SAID HE PLANS TO DISCUSS THE MATTER WITH HIS COUSIN IN DETAIL; HE COULD NOT, HOWEVER, PROVIDE ANY GUIDANCE ON WHAT, IF ANY, INSTRUCTIONS THE DELEGATION IS CARRYING WITH IT.

3. WE HAVE SMALL REASON TO THINK THAT THE JAMAICANS

WILL BE PARTICULARLY SYMPATHETIC TO OUR CONCERNS, GIVEN THEIR READY WILLINGNESS TO IDENTIFY THEMSELVES WITH THE RADICAL FRINGE OF THE THIRD WORLD. HOWEVER, THEY ARE MOMENTARILY ON THEIR BEST BEHAVIOR VIS-A-VIS THE UNITED STATES AS THEY SEEK SUPPORT FOR THEIR COLLAPSING ECONOMY. THUS, A MEASURE OF CULTIVATION MIGHT PROVE PRODUCTIVE.

4. THE COMPOSITION OF THE JAMAICAN DELEGATION IS:

LEADER DERRICK ROCHESTER,
PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY IN THE MINISTRY
OF LABOR

MEMBERS A.N. LESLIE, PERMANENT SECRETARY IN
THE MINISTRY OF LABOR

MISS CLAUDETTE DOUGLAS,
MINISTRY OF LABOR

S.B. CHAMBERS,
JAMAICAN EMPLOYERS' REPRESENTATIVE

SENATOR HOPETON CAVEN,
TRADE UNION CONGRESS

CLIFTON STONE,
BUSTAMANTE INDUSTRIAL TRADE UNION

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V. BANCROFT EDWARDS, NATIONAL
WORKERS UNION

MRS. L. CHAMPAGNIE, JAMAICA NURSES'
ASSOCIATION

STONE WOULD BE PARTICULARLY WORTH TALKING TO.
DORRANCE

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NNN

Message Attributes

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